former the natural reply to this insolent outburst would have
been the dismissal of the woman and the termination of the
correspondence. Mr. Schurz realized, however, that such a
course might make her the victim of another's wrongheaded-
ness, and that he had to deal with an aggravated case of spoils-
man's fever. Accordingly he addressed to the excited editor a
long, calm letter, pointing out, with exaggerated gravity, that
the excellence of the woman's work as a correspondent gave her
a claim to increase of rank and pay on the staff of the news-
paper, but not on that of the Patent Office, and setting forth
the elementary principles of civil-service reform. The Secre-
tary then gave closer personal attention to the case, satisfied
himself that the clerk concerned was a bright, respectable and
hard-working woman, with a reasonably good defense against
the charges on which she had been reduced in rank. He there-
fore transferred her to another branch of the department's
service, where she continued to labor with eminent efficiency
till near the end of his term, turning often aside from her
avocation of enlightening the people of Ohio on things social
and political at the Capital, to express in private letters her
sense of the greatness and justice of the Secretary of the In-
terior. The truculent editor was mollified by Schurz's action if
not convinced by his argument, and appropriately made his
last appearance in the letter files of the Secretary

as an earnest
seeker after office for himself.

In all the other aspects of the reform which he had preached, Mr. Schurz was as faithful to his ideals as in the matter of minor appointments. Though some branches of the Interior Department, especially the Land Office and the Indian Bureau, had been, especially under Grant, notorious haunts of tfee spoilsmen, nothing like a clean sweep was undertaken, biit|;$rtft1Iy to the disgust in many casss of the friends